From: perf@memberclicks-mail.net on behalf of PERF Daily Clips
To: gterry@bakersfieldpd.us
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PERF Daily Clips - July 15, 2019

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DIVERSION

Arizona Daily Star: Tucson police pushing treatment rather than jail for hundreds of drug users

Tucson police have sent more than 500 people struggling with opioid addiction to treatment rather than jail over the past year, thanks to a grant-funded county program.

The effort, called "deflection," has saved taxpayers at least $150,000.

Last July, TPD rolled out a six-month pilot program in two divisions, allowing opioid addicts the opportunity to be placed into treatment without the risk of arrest or incarceration. The program involved self-referral by drug users and outreach by caseworkers and officers to connect with people who recently fell out of drug treatment or experienced an overdose. Officers could also opt to "deflect" a person found in possession of up to 2 grams of opioids from arrest and instead, fast-track that person into treatment.

The program experienced immediate success, with 117 people being deflected between July 1 and Oct. 31.

HOMELESSNESS

NBC 4 Los Angeles: LA police chief aims to wipe out minor warrants for homeless

Los Angeles Police Chief Michel Moore said he is working to eliminate thousands of homeless people's old warrants for minor offenses in the coming weeks as part of a solution to

help get people off the streets.

"This is a humanitarian crisis of our generation," Moore said Wednesday in a wide-ranging interview with The Associated Press. "This matches any other calamity that this city or this region or this country has seen. It is, I believe, a social emergency."

Homelessness rose 16% in LA over the past year , to more than 36,000 people, according to a June report by the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority. Across LA County, the count increased 12%, to nearly 59,000 people.

FEDERAL GRANTS

Los Angeles Times: Setback for L.A.: Police agencies may receive federal grants for helping nab immigrants, court rules

When Los Angeles police officials requested $3.125 million in federal funds in 2017 to hire 25 officers, they said their focus would be on "building trust and respect" through community policing.

In keeping with long-standing city policy, they did not cite "illegal immigration" as a focus for the new officers or indicate that the proposed hires would work with immigration agents to help deport immigrants being held in local jails.

The grant money went elsewhere, and Los Angeles sued, saying it was being punished for its stance.

A federal appeals court rejected that lawsuit Friday, ruling 2 to 1 that the Trump administration may give preference in awarding grants to police departments that help federal authorities nab immigrants.

GUN VIOLENCE

Pittsburgh Tribune-Review: Pa. attorney general seeks support in tracking guns used in crimes

Pittsburgh's police department and the federal prosecutor based in the city threw their support Friday behind a Track and Trace program designed to combat gun violence by keeping better track of guns in Pennsylvania.

The program launched out of Pennsylvania Attorney General Josh Shapiro's office aims to track guns that are sold in the state and trace the weapons that have been used in crimes to their owners.

Officials said it will work if everyone - from law enforcement officials to gun owners - follows rules and regulations already on the books about firearms. Police departments are required to report guns used to commit crimes to a federal database. Gun owners must follow certain laws when buying or selling a firearm.

TECHNOLOGY

The Guardian (UK): Police trials of facial recognition backed by home secretary

The home secretary, Sajid Javid, has thrown his support behind police trials of controversial facial recognition technology.

The Neoface system used by the Metropolitan police and South Wales police is supplied by the Japanese company NEC, which markets the same technology to retailers and casinos to spot regular customers, and to stadium and concert operators to scan crowds for "potential troublemakers".

The BBC reported that Javid supported the trials at the launch of computer technology aimed at helping police fight online child abuse.

MARIJUANA

Tampa Bay Times: In Florida, a haze builds around pot law enforcement as technology catches up to policy

A hemp bill that took effect July 1 removes the plant from the list of substances that are deemed illegal because of their potential for abuse. But many hemp-derived products still have trace amounts of THC so the bill language allows for them to contain .3 percent or less of it.

The trouble is that law enforcement agencies and prosecutors can test for the presence of THC but not for how much of it there is. The equipment they use in the field and in the lab produces the same results whether a test sample has high levels of THC or a minuscule amount.

Adding greater precision to the process will take time and money.

Meantime, Florida may see a "defacto legalization" of marijuana, "just because of the resources that are going to be involved in proving the substances," said Philip Archer, the top prosecutor for Brevard and Seminole counties and president of the Florida Prosecuting Attorneys Association.

CBS 11 Dallas/Fort Worth: Former Fort Worth police chief believes corruption, racial discrimination played part in his firing

In an appeal to the state for denying him unemployment benefits, former Fort Worth Police Chief Joel Fitzgerald provided further details on why he believes whistle blowing on corruption, and racial discrimination played a part in his firing.

In the appeal sent this week, Fitzgerald wrote that he was tasked with turning around a department "operating as if it was in the 1950s." When he tried to make changes, he wrote that city employees "did not support this way of thinking."

POLICE EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS

Minneapolis Star Tribune: A model of persistence, Minneapolis police veteran Eddie Frizell to take over Metro Transit force

Veteran Minneapolis police Inspector Eddie Frizell became a model of persistence on Friday with the announcement that he will take over the top job for the Metro Transit Police Department.

In recent years with Minneapolis, Frizell has been close to receiving promotions to chief in other jurisdictions, including St. Paul in 2016, and run unsuccessfully for Hennepin County sheriff. He even sued the Minneapolis department over a demotion, but kept going.

He takes over a growing police agency that sprawls across the entire seven-county Twin Cities metropolitan area. The service area comprises seven counties, 90 cities and 907 square miles. Frizell will oversee 140 sworn full-time officers and 60 part-time officers. More officers are expected to join the department with the addition of the Southwest light-rail project.

POLICE EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS

CBS 3 West Michigan: Grand Rapids announces new police chief: Deputy Chief Eric Payne takes the reins

Grand Rapids City Manager Mark Washington announced Friday that Eric Payne, a deputy chief in the department, will be the city's next police chief.

Payne has served in the department for 32 years, and was among three finalists for the position. As deputy chief for the past two years, he managed the patrol division, special response team, office of special events and both the traffic and canine units. He beings work as chief July 22.

POLICE EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS

Washington Post: Montgomery County police-chief finalists emerge in search, people familiar with selection say

Two finalists have been selected for police chief in Maryland's most populous locality as Montgomery County Executive Marc Elrich prepares to fill a post open for the first time in 15 years, according to multiple people familiar with the selection process.

The contenders to head the 1,300-member force have not run a police department of that size and do not include the county police veteran who has been the acting chief following the retirement of Chief J. Thomas Manger, according to nine people who spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss the ongoing personnel matter.

One finalist, Antonio DeVaul, serves as chief of the police department in Takoma Park, Md., with 40 sworn officers. The other, Tonya Chapman, was chief of the Portsmouth, Va., police department, with 255 sworn officers.

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Police Executive Research Forum · 1120 Connecticut Ave. NW, Suite 930, Washington, District of Columbia 20036, United States

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